



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
6 July 2001

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination

Forty-first session

11 June-6 July 2001

Agenda item 9

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-first session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Ayman M. Elgammal (Egypt)

Addendum

Programme questions: proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

(Item 4 (a))

Section 21, Regular programme of technical cooperation

1. At its 26th meeting, on 28 June 2001, the Committee considered section 21, Regular programme of technical cooperation, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.
2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the proposals under this section. It was emphasized that this section played an important role in supporting national development efforts of developing countries.
4. The view was expressed that this section should have also been presented in the results-based budgeting format and contained expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement. It was explained that application of results-based budgeting techniques was difficult as the exact nature and extent of activities to be financed by the section were not known in advance.
5. It was noted that this budget section has been traditionally kept at maintenance level, subject only to recosting, and that, in accordance with General Assembly



resolution 2514 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969, budget estimates have been in the nature of targets of programme delivery in each of the sectors or major fields of activity for which resources have been previously appropriated by the General Assembly. A view was expressed that this budget section should not be recosted as its activities related to specific requests for services during a biennium.

6. Questions were asked about the number of actual requests for advisory services made by Governments for previous periods and the number projected for 2002-2003. Information was also sought concerning the results of evaluation of advisory projects from previous budget periods.

Conclusions and recommendations

7. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 21, Regular programme of technical cooperation, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

8. The Committee also recommended that the activities related to section 21, Regular programme of technical cooperation be presented in terms of objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, where possible.
